

THE WESTERN FRONT

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Wednesday, November 13, 2019

Gov. Inslee visits Western *Inslee spoke to classes about climate and energy policies*

Jordan Van Beek
THE WESTERN FRONT

Washington state Gov. Jay Inslee visited Western's campus on Monday, Nov. 4, to talk to students about climate and energy policy.

Brittany Portillo, an energy policy major and director of the women in energy mentoring network, and Kellen Lynch, an energy studies and Fairhaven major and project manager of the ZeNETH Net Zero Tiny House, escorted Inslee to his car after speaking to the class.

"Brittany Portillo and I were contacted by Huxley's Dean, Steve Hollenhorst," Lynch said. "I believe we were invited because we each have student projects that we're leading at WWU that involve energy and policy. Those are issues that are important to Governor Inslee as well."



Governor Jay Inslee speaks to students in Academic West on Nov. 4. // Photo courtesy of Rhys Logan

Lynch believes Inslee and his administration have shown much needed leadership for years when it comes to advancing an actionable climate

change agenda. "Jay Inslee is the only presidential candidate that ran on a climate change platform, therefore it was really awesome

for him to come speak to Energy 101 students that will be making decisions in the future like he is right now," Portillo said. "It was a wonderful opportunity

to have the governor of Washington at Western. It really shows that us students are not far from government
see INSLEE, page 4

City creates improved emergency preparation measures

Merrideth McDowell
THE WESTERN FRONT

Having extra long-lasting food, water and medicine can be a matter between life and death in the case of a natural disaster or emergency. Plus, living along the Cascadia Subduction Zone means an earthquake has the potential to wipe out the entire Northwest region, according to Lynn Sterbenz, emergency manager for the City of Bellingham.

Community education on emergency preparation is important, and the average citizen is greatly under-prepared.

This year brought many new installments to help the emergency management in Bellingham. Some of the new installments include tsunami modeling videos and evacuation maps that will be accessible through the City of Bellingham website.

Sterbenz advises that Bellingham residents and businesses familiarize themselves with this. If a large earthquake were to occur, tsunami potential is high for the Bellingham area.

The City also created new measures to help ensure the smoothest emergency protocol for the community. In early 2019, the Office of Emergency Management formed the Bellingham Auxiliary Communication Service (BACS).

Along with this, the Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Communications Plan, was introduced this year. The goal of this plan is to enhance the accessibility of safety information for

see PREP, page 4

Former HomesNOW! president pleads not-guilty to first degree theft charge

Ella Banken
THE WESTERN FRONT

Jim Peterson, former president and co-founder of HomesNOW! pled not-guilty to the charge of theft in the first degree at his arraignment on Friday, Nov. 8.

Peterson's pre-trial hearing is set for Wednesday, Dec. 18.

Peterson was arrested on Friday, Nov. 1, and booked into Whatcom County Jail on suspicion of first-degree theft. Peterson was released on bail of \$10,000 Monday, Nov. 4.

The conservative estimate of funds misappropriated from the non-profit was \$75,000, according to Lieutenant Claudia Murphy of the Bellingham Police Department.

The maximum penalty for a charge of first degree theft in the state of Washington is 10 years in prison and a fine of \$20,000.

Theft in the first degree, which is the theft of anything that exceeds \$5,000, is considered a class B felony in the state of Washington.

Vikings clinch GNAC title



Read more pg. 10

Viking defender Jeremiah Lee (6) leaps in the air, after a corner kick, to score the game winning goal on Saturday, Nov. 9. // Photo by Grady Haskell

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Are movie theaters becoming elitist?



Bella Seppi (left) and Ryan Hopkins speak to students about the mission of their club, Shred the Contract, on Thursday, Nov. 7. // Photo by Claire Ott

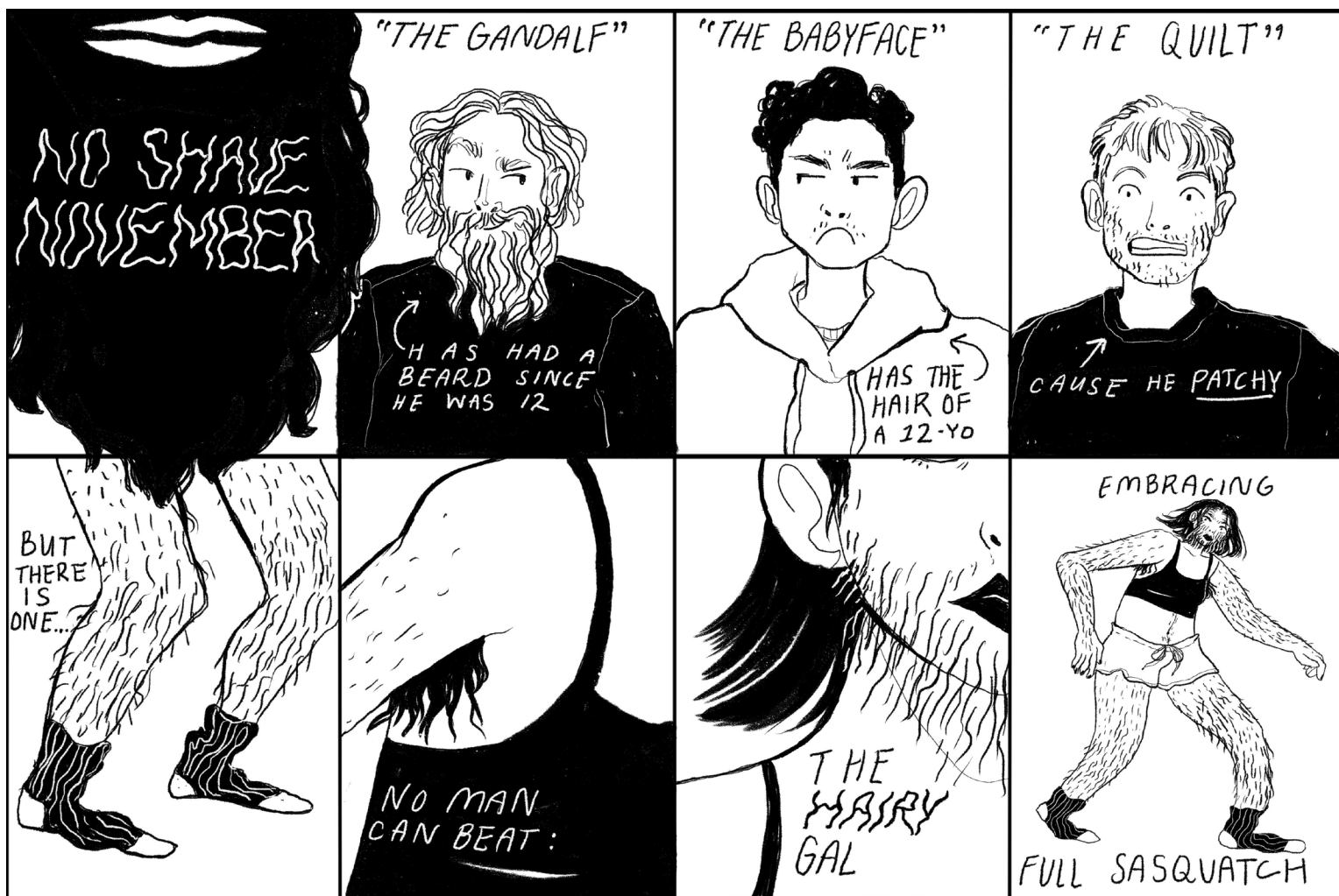


Illustration by Chloe Halbert

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Satpal S. Sidhu - 51.1%

Mayor:
Seth Fleetwood - 53.47%

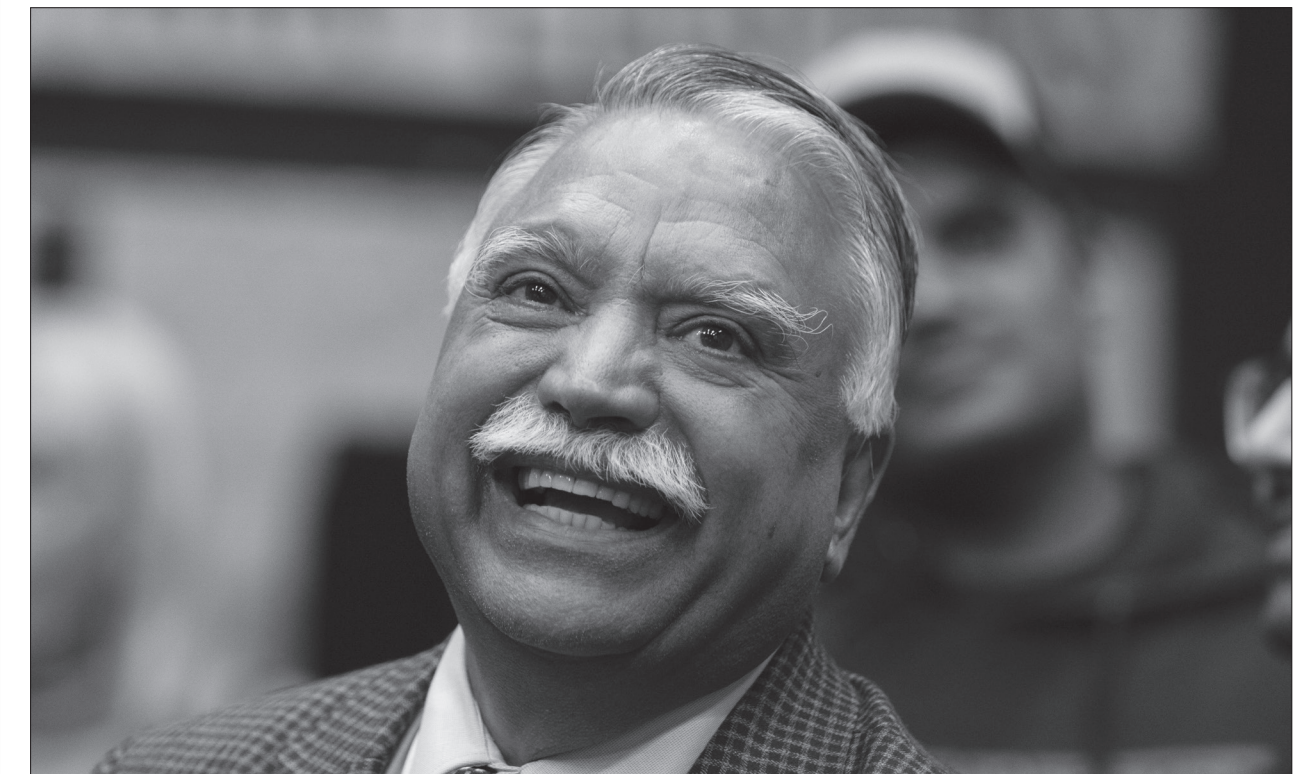
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Hannah E. Stone - 62.89%
Daniel Hammil - 74.23%
Lisa Anderson - 67.05%
Hollie Huthman - 80.2%

County Council:
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Ben Elenbaas - 58.54%
Carol Frazey - 60.86%

Sheriff:
Bill Elfo - 69.02%

Assessor:
Rebecca Xczar - 50.85%

Updated election results see Sidhu as County Executive



Satpal Sidhu after a short speech thanking everyone for their support during his campaign on Nov. 5. "I'm so proud. So proud of my party, so proud of my team, that we have been able to do this and maintain [our] values" Sidhu said.

// Photo by Grady Haskell

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- Creamy Chicken Rice Soup - Draper Valley Farms Chicken - Skagit Valley, WA • Bolthouse Carrots - Prosser, WA • Edaleen Dairy - Lynden, WA

EAT LOCAL FIRST

Food access through community

Western, non-profits host event surrounding food security

Ana Soltero
THE WESTERN FRONT

Tucked in between Fairhaven Dorms and Buchanan Towers is a five acre, student-run farm where students, faculty and local organization representatives met to discuss a shared desire: food access and education. These community based dialogues were hosted by Community Connect in The Outback farm on Tuesday, Nov. 5.

Community Connect is a program between Western and local nonprofits. Western invites nonprofits to lead dialogues with the campus community. Every year, Community Connect has a different theme for their events. This year's focus is food access and security.

"It is always about what the community knows and what we can learn from them," Laurel Hammond, a specialist with the Center for Community Learning Program, said.

In attendance were two representatives from two major Bellingham community organizations, the Bellingham Food Bank and Common Threads Farm, in addition to the manager of The Outback. The Outback started in 1972 and consists of a five-

acre plot that stretches from Fairhaven to Buchanan Towers. It is part of a delineated wetland.

"Delineated means that someone has actually looked at it, mapped it and decided that this is an area that is worth protecting. It is legally a protected space and cannot be developed," Terri Kempton, The Outback farm manager, said.

Kempton said she has visited a lot of campus farms, but they do not look like the one in Western's backyard.

"A lot of other farms are flat and they are sunny," Kempton said. "It makes it really easy to take care of and really easy to drive machinery on. You get all that sunlight, you do not have to worry about your plants getting too much shade from trees. We do not necessarily have that same situation."

Although it might seem that this delineated wetland would result in a burden, The Outback is able to employ some permaculture practices as a result. Permaculture refers to a method in which the surrounding environment is incorporated into agricultural practices. This allows for a self-sustaining ecosystem.

"The idea is that it is a

form of producing food and of living sustainably," Kempton said. "It is so sustainable that you can kind of do it forever without ever draining those resources and with regenerating the ecosystem you live in."

The main goal at The Outback is to teach students about farming, even if they come in not knowing anything about it, Kempton said. The Outback is a space that allows for self-empowerment when it comes to learning about food systems and providing food for themselves.

The Bellingham Food Bank has served the community for 46 years. It has five distributions per week at three locations.

"I very quickly saw that there is a profound need in our community, and I did not have that recognition before the job that I am in now," Kristin Costanza, Bellingham Food Bank communications coordinator, said.

Costanza has been with the Bellingham Food Bank for almost three years. She started her current job in 2016 right around Thanksgiving.

"There is a profound community that wants to meet that need with food, care, volunteering, support, hope and everything it takes to overcome hunger in the con-

text of giving food to people in need," Costanza said.

Costanza said the food bank has trucks driving around town Monday through Friday, making stops at 16 separate locations. These locations include Hagen, Costco, Trader Joe's and even Starbucks.

The food bank gets about 5,000 pounds of food every day. A good deal of them are perishable items that are stored in their refrigerators, Costanza said.

"We reflect our community, we serve our community, but our community serves us, too," Costanza said. "We wouldn't do business the way we do if we did not have a community saying 'we like that, we think fresh food is the way to go.'"

Common Threads Farm was founded in 2006. The organization is a nonprofit "that promotes a seed-to-table approach to food production, nutrition and environmental stewards," according to their website.

"We garden and cook with kids. We like to say that we grow good eaters," Laura Plaut, executive director for Common Threads, said.

Common Threads started as the result of Plaut becoming a mom. She started to see the world through the eyes of

a child, Plaut said.

"I started to notice everything that was at [my son's] eye level at grocery stores. The next time you go through a store, just pretend you are as tall as your knees and think about the powerful marketing that is being done to your knees and therefore to your kid's eyes," Plaut said.

Her challenge was to think about how healthy food choices can be the joyful and easy choice for children, Plaut said.

"We're really in the business of helping kids — and by extension their families — to make joyful connections with food," Plaut said.

Common Treads employees cook and eat with children. Twenty-four Whatcom County schools and five school districts work with Common Threads, Plaut said.

Common Treads employees cook and eat with children. Twenty-four Whatcom County schools and five school districts work with Common Threads, Plaut said.

Most are elementary schools, though there are some middle schools in the mix. The organization is working on extending their reach to high schools.

INSLEE
continued from page 1

power and that's how it should be."

Inslee also advocated for students to vote in the Nov. 5 general election during his visit to campus.

"I am thankful for the opportunity to connect personally with our governor, as I recognize it as a privilege to have access to not only our highest state representative, but to a nationally-known figure," Lynch said.

Lynch said how this experience can help encourage students to be advocates for a clean-energy future.

"Students at Western and across the state need all the encouragement they can get to become the next generation of policy makers and advocates for a clean-energy future," Lynch said. "Right now, the only thing certain about the future of students is that all of our lives will be colored by the impacts of climate change. We're in this one together."

On his scheduled visit, Inslee talked to professor Charlie Barnhart's Energy 101 class in Academic Instructional Center West room 210 from 2:15-2:45 p.m.

Inslee has been to Western's campus on at least four occasions since he's been governor, according to Becca Kenna-Schenk, executive director of Government Relations.

PREP
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everyone including non-English speakers.

Sterbenz is in charge of handling the new installations for Bellingham residents and helping to ensure that people are informed on emergency preparation.

"The most important change is the addition of the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) to our existing alert and notification system in November of this year," Sterbenz said.

This makes it easier for mass broadcasting of messages

ing emergency news through multiple avenues at once.

City Council Member Gene Knutson elaborated on Bellingham's recent improvements of winter storm protocol.

"We've stepped up our police patrols, which is in case of a natural disaster," Knutson said.

A larger police force means more widespread aid on the account of an emergency.

The City Council approves emergency protocol for the city, and it is usually revised every few years if needed to accommodate any environmental changes. After the adopted emergency plan, emergency

preparation staff take over the details.

On preparedness, Council Member Michael Lilliquist doubts most citizens are truly prepared to sustain themselves.

"I wonder how many people are receiving the new advice," Lilliquist said. "Having a gallon of water extra isn't enough anymore."

Sterbenz advises people to be prepared for sustaining two weeks without food or water for all members of the household including pets.

Sterbenz stressed how important it is for businesses to be prepared in our community.

"After a major disaster, 40% of small businesses never reopen and another 25% go out of business a year later" Sterbenz said. "Without these businesses, people are unemployed, children have a hard time going back to school, and the goods and services the community relies on are gone."

Things to consider for business owners:

- How will your supplies be replenished if the highway system is damaged?
- Do you have enough savings in case your business needs to remain closed for a few weeks?
- Who are your essential employees?
- How will you contact your employees after a disaster?
- Is there a way for people to work remotely if they are unable to get to work?



A tsunami evacuation route sign in downtown Bellingham near the Waterfront District on Monday, Nov. 11. // Photo by Merrideth McDowell

Emergency shelters fight overflow

The City of Bellingham, Whatcom County team up to help accomodate housing needs this winter

Noah Harper
THE WESTERN FRONT

An average winter low temperature in Bellingham is around 30 degrees, the prime temperature for hypothermia. According to the National Weather Service, hypothermia is possible even at temperatures between 30 and 50 degrees.

Hypothermia occurs due to "prolonged exposure to very cold temperatures. When exposed to cold temperatures, your body begins to lose heat faster than it is produced," according to the CDC website. If not treated with urgency, hypothermia will lead to a cold and untimely death.

People who are homeless are among the highest risk for hypothermia, according to the CDC. With winter fast approaching, what steps are being taken in Bellingham to keep those who are homeless off the street during the frigid nights?

This coming winter, the city, with some help from the county, is working with local nonprofit organizations and community churches to provide sufficient shelter for the homeless in preparation for sub-freezing temperatures like last year.

Alongside Lighthouse Mission Ministries, the city is partly funding two full-season shelters, and the Whatcom County Health Department is coordinating with four local churches to create emergency overnight shelters.

"[Last winter] we pretty much rode the line of capacity significantly," Executive Director of Lighthouse Mission Hans Erchinger-Davis said. "This year we anticipate even more, sooner reaching the capacity. Toward the end of October, we noticed ourselves getting up to the 150 mark for the drop-in center. A year ago, at the end of October, we [were] at 130. And so we have some concerns that we're going to hit capacity sooner this year than last year."

The Lighthouse Drop-In Centre can hold up to 150 residents at night and all five



The Lighthouse Mission Ministries on Sunday, Nov. 10. // Photo by Noah Harper

Lighthouse facilities combined can sleep 250, Erchinger-Davis said. Lighthouse accepts men, and women and children but separates by gender or by family at night.

"I think what we have in place this year might just be enough in terms of the number of beds available," said Michael Lilliquist, city council member and member of the county's homeless strategies work group. According to Lilliquist, the reason why there are only four emergency shelters is because it was not a predetermined number, and those churches volunteered their services.

Last year the collection of churches, led by Lighthouse Mission, were the ones who coordinated to provide emergency shelters while the city operated the Civic Center, Erchinger-Davis said. This year the county took lead on the emergency shelters, playing a larger role in this winter than last winter.

"In the past I think the county has failed to fully recognize their centrality in dealing with homelessness, in particular with shelter services, but this is improving," Lilliquist said. "Whether or not you freeze to death in the winter is a health crisis that should be handled by the health department."

But what happens when Lighthouse Mission and the Civic Center are filled? Where can the homeless go next and how do they know what has vacancy? This is where the emergency shelters come into play.

The four emergency shelters, located in Christ the King Church, Fountain Community Church, Garden Street United Methodist Church and Seventh Day Adventist Church, open if the outside temperature, including wind chill, drops below 28 degrees and all other shelters are at capacity.

People who are homeless are encouraged to call (360)788-

7983 to find which emergency shelters will be open that night. Starting Nov. 1, an emergency winter shelter hotline will be updated daily.

"We find there's a lot of word-of-mouth, they know what's available and if things are still up and they hear about it from their friends," Erchinger-Davis said. "[The homeless] will oftentimes find other solutions for themselves. They might stay with somebody in a motorhome or they might have that one spot that only they know about."

Jason Lenhart, who has been homeless on-and-off for the last four years, spent his winter last year not in a shelter but on a boat, though he still thinks that more warm places are needed over the winter.

"I think one of the hardest things during this time of the year as it gets into winter is [helping] people stay warm," said Lenhart. "It would probably be a good idea if they were able to find a bigger

building or even a couple smaller buildings for us to stay in because sometimes during the winter we can only fit so many people here, and then sometimes during the winter we had to turn some people away. We had a couple people we had to do that to last year and they ended up not making it through the winter."

The best way to help out this winter is to volunteer, Lilliquist and Erchinger-Davis said. Lighthouse Mission receives no money from the city and thus, thrives on donations and volunteers.

"We never received any government money, and we need a lot of financial support," Erchinger-Davis said. "It's always nice to have a donation of hats and socks."

"One of the things that's holding us back from opening up more shelters — or for that matter may hold us back in terms of the current shelters — is volunteer burnout," Lilliquist said.



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Vikings clinch GNAC title with stellar defense

Men's soccer wins GNAC title, spot in NCAA championship tournament



Western men's soccer team takes home the GNAC title after winning 1-0 against Montana State on Saturday, Nov. 9. // Photo by Grady Haskell

Conor Wilson
THE WESTERN FRONT

Chilling rain washed over the turf at Robert S. Harrington field on Saturday night, Nov. 9, and with it the Viking men washed away an 11-year championship drought.

With a 1-0 victory over third-place Montana State University Billings, the No. 19 Viking men's soccer team won its third regular season Great Northwest Athletic Conference title in program history, and first since 2008.

The top spot in the GNAC also secures the Vikings' spot in this year's NCAA Division II championship tournament. This will be the team's second tournament appearance in program history and first since 2016, according to the team's website.

The win improves the Vikings' record to 9-0-1 in conference play and 12-3-1 overall. The victory also extends the team's winning streak to eight games and its unbeaten streak to 11.

Although the team only needed a tie across its final three games to secure the GNAC title, the Vikings came

out fast, controlling most of the possession and outshooting the Yellowjackets 11-2 in the first half.

The Vikings broke through in the 54th minute, when senior defender and team captain Jeremiah Lee volleyed a corner kick — delivered by junior midfielder Georg Cholewa — into the lower right corner just beyond the goalkeeper's reach for his second goal of the season.

"Everyone was fantastic," said seven-year head coach Greg Brisbon. "Jeremiah [Lee] came up big as a senior captain scoring the game winner. That was special."

The Vikings defense continued its success throughout the game, holding MSUB to only six shots all game, none of which were on target.

"[Our defense] is definitely a big part of our success," said Brisbon. "Our backline, whoever goes back there, our goalkeepers have been fantastic and at the end of the day if the other team doesn't score, we can't lose."

Western has conceded only four goals across 10 games of conference play according to the GNAC's website, seven less than the next



Western men's soccer players celebrate after defender Jeremiah Lee (6) scores a goal in the second half against Montana State University on Saturday, Nov. 9. // Photo by Grady Haskell

closest team.

"The defense played lights out tonight like always," freshman goalkeeper Brandon Locke said. "It's insane how good we can be when we play to potential."

The Vikings' current winning streak of eight games is the longest streak since 2007

and is five games behind the program record of 13 set in 1989.

"We went from [my] first year winning I think five games on the season to winning the title with two games remaining," Lee said. "It's a fantastic feeling and seeing the progression as a player

for myself, and as a team growing together and really changing the culture."

Western will face off with second place Simon Fraser University in its final home game of the GNAC season Thursday, Nov. 14, at 7 p.m. at Harrington field.

Western finishes perfect conference season

Women's soccer becomes third team in GNAC history to go undefeated in conference play

Nolan Baker
THE WESTERN FRONT

A few hundred feet away from Interbay Stadium, just past the west end line and across the parking lot, freight trains thunder past the Seattle Pacific University Falcons hosting the No. 7 nationally-ranked Western women's soccer team.

Western resembled those very freight trains that rolled through Interbay on Thursday night. For the entirety of the game, and the conference season, the Vikings were an unstoppable force, crushing teams with their unmatched speed and immense strength.

Led by their stingy defense and a 24th minute goal from sophomore forward Dayana Diaz, Western went ahead for an early lead and never put on the brakes throughout the game.

After a convincing 2-0 victory over the SPU Falcons, the Vikings became the third team in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference history to finish the conference season with a 12-0-0 record. This feat has previously only been achieved by Western in 2016 and SPU in 2007.

Coming into the last game of the regular season, both

teams were locked into the top two spots on the GNAC standings. Both teams have also clinched a berth in the GNAC Championships which begin on Nov. 14 at Interbay Stadium.

Western was nine points

by the opposing goalkeeper but squeaked across the goal line. Within two minutes, the Vikings had drove over and scored on the Falcons on their home field, taking a decisive two goal lead that they

After the first six games of the regular season Western was only 4-2. Since then, they have won twelve straight games with a combined score of 45-3.

Western head coach Travis Connell said those losses early in the season were a wake-up call for his team. "We played good teams and tested ourselves on the road," Connell said. "So we definitely learned from those losses and from the close wins. That's the key, I think, is to continue to learn from those things."

Now the Vikings look ahead to the GNAC Championships, where they will face the fourth seed team in the 4 p.m. match on Nov. 14 at Interbay Stadium in Seattle.

These conference games just prepare us for the post-season, and with only a couple games left, it's crucial that we use them to make our game better," said junior goalkeeper Natalie Dierickx after Western's win against Northwest Nazarene University last week.

While Western has dominated their conference foes, their season started off with uncertainty. Western lost two close road games in September, the first loss coming in a 1-0 overtime defeat against Cal State Los Angeles and the second a week later when they lost 2-1 against Colorado School of Mines.

"We could find each other in the backyard and it would be as intense as always."

Arby Busey

SPU women's soccer head coach

ahead of SPU for first place in the conference, so a win by the hosting Falcons would get them within six points by season's end. But to say that this game meant nothing underplays the intense rivalry these two teams have.

"It's always going to be intense," SPU head coach Arby Busey said. "Regardless of whether there's a lot on the line, a little on the line, they're always going to bring it, we're always going to bring what we've got, and so it's a game that we're always looking forward to."

That intensity and rivalry

gain possession of the ball.

"We could find each other in the backyard and it would be as intense as always," Busey said. "That's what great competitors do, that's what great rivals do."

The Vikings were awarded a free kick and drove down the field and began suffocating the Falcon defense with a constant barrage of attacks.

After out-muscling a pair of SPU defenders for a loose ball inside the penalty box, senior captain Liv Larson shot a rocket into the bottom left corner of the goal that was almost corralled

rode for the rest of the game.

SPU, while remaining a consistent GNAC contender, has not beaten the Vikings in 19 consecutive games. Western now leads the all-time record between the two teams 20-18-6.

While Western has dominated their conference foes, their season started off with uncertainty. Western lost two close road games in September, the first loss coming in a 1-0 overtime defeat against Cal State Los Angeles and the second a week later when they lost 2-1 against Colorado School of Mines.

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Vikings secure opening win with late push

Men's basketball pulled away with 92-88 victory over Cal State Dominguez Hills Friday night

Jordan Shepherd
THE WESTERN FRONT

The Western men's basketball team opened up the season with an exciting 92-88 victory over California State Dominguez Hills on Friday, Nov. 8, in Sam Carver Gymnasium.

The Vikings hosted this year's GNAC/CCAA Conference Challenge Tournament, finishing the game 33-of-63 (52.4%) from the field and 13-of-28 (46.4%) from the three-point range. They had 16 assists, 13 turnovers, five blocked shots and four steals.

Western led the game by as many as 17 points in the second half, but had some late trouble when Dominguez Hills rallied to come within two points of the Vikings in the final minutes of play.

Clutch free throws from senior forward Trevor Jasinsky and sophomore guard Jalen Green helped to secure the win for the Vikings as Dominguez Hills went on a late fouling attempt.

"We started off hot for sure and got a little too comfortable, and they started making shots and never gave up," senior center Logan Schilder said. "They are a really good team and are going to do a lot of good things this year, but we got a good win,

and we could have finished a little stronger."

The victory came from an excellent team effort. Redshirt freshman guard D'Angelo Minnis, Jasinsky, Green and Schilder all finished the game with double digits.

Green finished with 20 points and eight rebounds, while Jasinsky and Schilder both finished with 17 points, including Schilder's three for five finish from the three-point range.

The team was led by Minnis, who finished with a game high of 22 points on 9-15 shooting and shot 7-8 (87.5%) from the field in the first half of play in his official collegiate debut.

"D'Angelo was fantastic, it was fun to watch him play," head coach Tony Dominguez said in the post-game interview on VikingsTV. "He played with a lot of fire. I felt like he was a catalyst tonight, and it was a good start for him."

The Vikings return with 11 players and five starters from last year's team, who finished 15-15 overall and 9-11 in GNAC play. The team was picked as the favorite in the GNAC Conference preseason coaches' poll, and is ranked No. 6 in the D2SIDA West Region preseason media poll.



Western's forward Luke Lovelady (21) slams down a dunk in the opening minutes of the first half. Western won 92-88 in their game against California State University Dominguez Hills on Friday, Nov. 8. // Photo by Grady Haskell

Tony Dominguez is going into his eighth year as head coach of the men's basketball team with an overall record of 148-68 (0.685), where he helped the program finish 0.500 or above in each of his previous seven seasons.

The tournament started with University of California San Diego defeating Simon Fraser University 95-70 in

Carver Gym Friday afternoon. The Vikings ended the tournament with a record of 1-1 after falling to University of California San Diego Saturday night by a score of 69-76. They are now 1-2 overall.

"I thought we played great for the first game and we moved the ball well," senior forward/center Cameron Retherford said. "Our offense

obviously has scorers, and we are going to score, but we did give up too many offensive rebounds, and that killed us. But other than that I think we can shut people down coming down the stretch."

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